News release

Farewell to Michael

6 October 2004

Britain's best known weatherman, Michael Fish, retires today. Mike will give his final forecast tonight at the end of the 10 o'clock news and bring to a close a hugely successful TV career spanning more than 30 years.

His first television broadcast was in January 1974 and over the years he has become a household name and the country's longest serving TV weatherman. This year, in the culmination of his career, he received the MBE in recognition of his work, an award of which he is justly proud.

His Met Office career began in November 1962 at Gatwick Airport and it was 1971 before he arrived at the old London Weather Centre when his voice was first heard over the airwaves. Mike has seen many changes in his working life; he was the last to broadcast using the old magnetic symbols and was the first to use the computer graphics in 1985. A 12-hour shift in the old days meant three broadcasts, but now there are over 100 forecasts each day on the various BBC channels!

Happy retirement Mike, everyone here wishes you a long and happy one!

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